

California Hazardous Materials and Oil Emergency Function (EF-10)

The California Hazardous Materials and Oil Emergency Function (EF-10) is an Annex to the State of California Emergency Plan (SEP), and provides for a coordinated response from state agencies and governmental entities with jurisdictional and regulatory authority to conduct all phases of emergency management to the response and recovery from a release of hazardous materials or oil in a disaster or large scale incident.

The California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) is the lead state agency responsible for the development and implementation of the EF-10 Annex.

Under the EF-10 Annex, there are 10 primary and 18 supporting state agencies committed to work together within their respective authorities to effectively and efficiently mitigate, as well as prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies involving the release or potential release of oil and/or hazardous materials. Through a unified concept of operations, EF-10 builds and enhances state and local response capabilities to save lives, protect health and safety, protect property, and preserve the environment when activated.

The Hazardous Materials and Oil Emergency Function also provides response recommendations and subject matter expertise to the California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for all phases of emergency management involving the release or potential release of oil and hazardous materials.

The scope of EF-10 includes the appropriate actions to prepare for, respond to, and recover from threats to public health and safety, property or the environment, caused by actual or potential oil and hazardous material incidents. Appropriate actions may include, but are not limited to:

- Minimizing or containing a release;
- Predicting, detecting and assessing the extent of a release of contamination (including sampling, modeling, and analysis and environmental monitoring);

- Stabilizing the release and preventing the spread of contamination or the threat to the public, property and the environment;
- Evaluating potential short-term and long-term human health effects and providing advice on decisions to shelter-in-place, evacuate and reoccupy dwellings;
- Analyzing options for environmental cleanup and waste disposition;
- Implementing environmental cleanup, including waste characterization, the storage, treatment, and disposal of oil and hazardous materials, the disposal of debris contaminated with oil and hazardous materials, and the restoration of the environment.

Examples of specific actions by participating agencies or their designees/contractors may include:

- Sampling of drinking water supplies to determine if there has been contamination;
- Stabilization of a release through dikes, berms, or impoundments;
- Capping contaminated soils or sludge;
- Implementing means to contain or slow the spread of the release or mitigate its effects;
- Setting or recommending evacuation, re-entry, clearance, and remediation levels;
- Decontaminating buildings and structures;
- Using drainage controls, fences, warning signs, or other security or site-control precautions;
- Removing highly contaminated soils from drainage areas;
- Removing drums, barrels, tanks, or other bulk storage containers that contain hazardous materials or oil;
- Collecting, segregating, and disposal of household hazardous waste;
- Debris classification, monitoring and disposal;
- The removal of debris which may include hazardous substances that if left in place will present a risk to public health and the environment
- Water quality monitoring and protection;
- Air quality sampling and monitoring;

- Instituting fishery closures
- Risk assessment and public health messaging; and,
- Protecting natural resources; and, other measures as deemed necessary.

Under EF-10, an incident specific Multi-Agency Coordination Group (MAC-G) will be formed to provide support to local emergency response actions for oil and hazardous material incidents. This is accomplished through planning, communications, situation monitoring, need projection, and expediting resource orders between the various agencies.

A MAC-G will normally be activated when the character, intensity, and technical needs of the emergency situation significantly impacts or involves other agencies. A MAC Group represents the agencies with jurisdictional responsibility, or which are heavily supporting the effort, or are being significantly impacted by the shortage of local resources at the Local/Region level which are involved with incidents or support. The MAC-G representatives or their designees will have their agency administrator authority to:

- Assist and advise on prioritizing incidents;
- Establish resource allocation priorities; and,
- Commit to allocating resources and/or expenditure emergency funds.

Incident specific MAC Groups will be formed dependent upon the specificity of the incident. The following are examples of the types of MAC-Gs to be formed under EF-10:

- Animal and contaminated food disposal (EF-11 is lead)
- Earthquakes
- Industrial or petrochemical facility incidents
- Floods
- Hazardous material or oil spills (marine, pipeline, AST, drill rig)

- Radiological incidents
- Urban and wildland fires

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